

GENERAL ORDERS  
No. 23

HEADQUARTERS  
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**I. DISTINGUISHED SERVICE CROSS.** By direction of the President, under the provisions of the Act of Congress approved 25 July 1963, the Distinguished Service Cross for extraordinary heroism in action is awarded (posthumously) to:

Specialist Four *Guy L. Mears*, , United States Army, 254th Medical Detachment who distinguished himself by extraordinary heroism in action in the Republic of Vietnam on 17 October 1970. On that date Specialist *Mears* was serving as a crewchief aboard a medical evacuation helicopter near Tuy Hoa, Republic of Vietnam. The helicopter exploded and started burning as a result of enemy fire. Specialist *Mears* escaped from the burning aircraft unharmed, but when he discovered the pilot of the aircraft remained trapped inside he reentered the fiercely burning aircraft at the risk of his life in order to save the lives of fellow crewmembers. Specialist *Mears* continued his brave rescue attempt with total disregard for his own safety until he became incapacitated by mortal burns. Specialist *Mears*' conspicuous gallantry, extraordinary heroism, and intrepidity at the cost of his own life are in the highest traditions of the military service and reflect great credit on him, and the United States Army.

**II. DISTINGUISHED SERVICE CROSS. 1.** By direction of the President, under the provisions of the Act of Congress approved 25 July 1963, the Distinguished Service Cross for extraordinary heroism in action is awarded to:

Major *James T. Newman*, , United States Army, who distinguished himself by extraordinary heroism in action of 18 February 1971, while serving with Troop C, 2nd Squadron, 17th Cavalry, 101st Airborne Division in the Republic of Vietnam. Major *Newman* was on another mission when he was informed of the plight of a downed American medical evacuation helicopter. He immediately rushed to the location of the downed aircraft. Upon arrival at the landing zone, his helicopter received extremely intense antiaircraft fire. Using evasive tactics he continued toward his objective, hampered further by dense smoke from grass fires and dust clouds from exploding enemy mortar rounds. Disregarding the intense hostile weapons fire, he remained in the landing zone well beyond the range of feasible safety so that the downed crew, two of whom were seriously wounded, could crawl from their bunker to his aircraft. He then flew his aircraft out of the area through a two-and-one-half-kilometer-wide corridor of continuing intense antiaircraft fire. Through his indomitable courage, complete disregard for his safety, and profound concern for his fellow soldiers, he averted loss of life and prevented further injury to the crewmembers of the downed medical evacuation helicopter. Major *Newman's*

extraordinary heroism was in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service and reflected great credit on him and the United States Army.

2. By direction of the President, under the provisions of the Act of Congress approved 25 July 1963, the Distinguished Service Cross for extraordinary heroism in action is awarded to:

Specialist Five (then Specialist Four) *Glenn R. Nicholas*, United States Army, who distinguished himself by extraordinary heroism in action in the Republic of Vietnam on 5 July 1971. On that date Specialist *Nicholas* was serving as crew chief on a light observation helicopter conducting visual reconnaissance operations in support of Army of the Republic of Vietnam ground forces. While investigating an enemy bunker complex with signs of recent activity, Specialist *Nicholas'* aircraft came under intense ground-to-air fire, seriously wounding the pilot. The aircraft crashed into a heavily wooded area and began to burn. Although dazed from the crash, Specialist *Nicholas* attempted to remove the unconscious pilot. At this time an explosion erupted in the ship, throwing Specialist *Nicholas* back, and he received fragmentation wounds. Despite his wounds and with total disregard for his own safety, he moved back to the aircraft and succeeded in extracting the pilot. As he dragged the pilot clear, another explosion occurred on board the aircraft. On two occasions, the command-and-control aircraft attempted to land to extract Specialist *Nicholas* and the seriously wounded pilot but began taking intense ground-to-air fire. In each instance, Specialist *Nicholas* moved into the fire zone and warned the ship away. When the aircraft erupted in one final explosion he moved the still-unconscious pilot to a relatively safe place and began administering first aid while simultaneously defending their position with machinegun fire directed against the enemy force which was trying to capture them. Minutes later a ground element was inserted to neutralize the enemy ground force long enough for the medical evacuation helicopter to arrive and extract Specialist *Nicholas* and the wounded pilot, although it was under intense ground-to-air fire. Specialist *Nicholas'* personal courage and total disregard for his own life, in an attempt to save the life of a fellow crew member, were in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service and reflect great credit on him, his unit, and the United States Army. (This award supersedes the Silver Star awarded to Specialist *Nicholas* for gallantry in action as announced in II Field Force Vietnam General Orders Number 2699, 1970.)

**III. SILVER STAR.** 1. By direction of the President, under the provisions of the Act of Congress approved 9 July 1918, a Silver Star for gallantry in action is awarded to:

Special Colonel *Isarangkura Vasin*, Royal Thai Army, who distinguished himself by gallantry in action on 15 March 1970 while serving as Chief of Staff of the Royal Thai Army Volunteer Force in the Republic of Vietnam. On that date Colonel *Vasin* was notified that an ambush patrol from Company A, 1st Battalion, 1st Brigade, Royal Thai Army Volunteer Force was in contact with a numerically superior enemy force. Realizing that ammunition resupply and reinforcements were urgently needed, Colonel *Vasin* immediately ordered the ready reaction force. Colonel *Vasin* saw in the faces of the men that they were apprehensive about moving at night against an unknown number of enemy forces. Realizing that decisive leadership was immediately needed, Colonel *Vasin* personally led the force and solved the situation at the scene of contact.

Colonel *Vasin* ordered the troops to dismount and sweep toward the point of contact when the reaction force arrived at the rubber plantation within 500 meters of the enemy. Realizing the troops were reluctant to close with the enemy in the dark, Colonel *Vasin* moved among them and instilled greater sense of direction and courage. The remaining enemy force evacuated the area as Colonel *Vasin's* force bore down on them by fire and maneuver. Inspired by his leadership and personal example, the men rallied and displayed an aggressive spirit defeating the enemy. Colonel *Vasin's* heroic actions and dedicated performance of duty were in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service and reflect great credit on him, his unit, and the Royal Thai Army.

2. By direction of the President, under the provisions of the Act of Congress approved 9 July 1918, a Silver Star for gallantry in action is awarded to:

Private First Class *William E. Pittman*, , United States Army, who distinguished himself by gallantry in action on Angaur Island, Palau Group, on 23 September 1944 while serving as a rifleman with Company "B", 322d Infantry, United States Army. Private *Pittman* was participating with his company in an attack over rough terrain when it received such intense machinegun, rifle, and grenade fire that it was forced to withdraw. The platoon leader re-entered the area, and Private *Pittman* and a sergeant voluntarily followed him. When the officer fell mortally wounded, Private *Pittman* and the sergeant attempted to evacuate him. In attempting to aid the officer the sergeant was also wounded. Realizing that further evacuation of the platoon leader was useless and that the sergeant was able to care for himself, Private *Pittman* went to the aid of his Company Commander who had been seriously wounded. Private *Pittman* culminated his valorous act when he successfully assisted in the evacuation of his Company Commander while under heavy enemy fire. The gallant actions of Private *Pittman* in aiding others without regard for his personal safety were a source of inspiration to all members of his company and were in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service and the United States Army.

**IV--LEGION OF MERIT.** By direction of the President, under the provisions of the Act of Congress approved 20 July 1942, and Executive Order 10600, 15 March 1955, the Legion of Merit (Degree of Commander) for exceptionally meritorious conduct in the performance of outstanding service is awarded to:

Lieutenant General *Fernando Gonzalez-Caminoy Aguirre*, Spanish Army. May 1968 to July 1971.

**V--LEGION OF MERIT.** By direction of the President, under the provisions of the Act of Congress approved 20 July 1942, and Executive Order 10600, 15 March 1955, the Legion of Merit (Degree of Legionnaire) for exceptionally meritorious conduct in the performance of outstanding service is awarded to:

Colonel (then Lieutenant Colonel) *Victor J. Suarez Romero*, , Colombian Army. May 1970 to February 1971.

**VI--SOLDIER'S MEDAL.** By direction of the President, under the provisions of the Act of Congress approved 2 July 1926, a Soldier's Medal for heroism not involving actual conflict with an enemy is awarded posthumously to:

Specialist Four *James C. Barnes*, , United States Army, who distinguished himself by heroism involving voluntary risk of life near Deep

Bottom Bridge in Duplin County, North Carolina, on 17 June 1971. On that date Specialist *Barnes* was swimming when a young woman cried out for assistance. Specialist *Barnes* unhesitatingly swam to her assistance, fully cognizant of the extreme dangers presented by the depth and turbulent conditions of the river and the highly emotional state of the woman. Upon reaching the woman, Specialist *Barnes* tried unsuccessfully to tow her to the safety of the river bank. Her frantic struggles, coupled with the strong undercurrent of the river, made any attempt at rescue virtually impossible. Both the woman and Specialist *Barnes* were pulled under by the current and were drowned. By his courageous action, humanitarian regard for his fellow man, and dedication of service to his country, Specialist Four *Barnes* has reflected great credit on himself and the United States Army.

**VII. SOLDIER'S MEDAL.** 1. By direction of the President, under the provisions of the Act of Congress approved 2 July 1962, a Soldier's Medal for heroism not involving actual conflict with an enemy is awarded to:

Sergeant First Class *Wallace H. Atchley*, , United States Army, who distinguished himself by heroism involving voluntary risk of life at Fort Belvoir, Virginia on 14 September 1970. On that date Sergeant *Atchley* witnessed a dump truck overturn and became engulfed in flames on Interstate Route 495. The driver was trapped in the cab of the truck and screaming for help. Without regard for his personal safety, Sergeant *Atchley* proceeded to rescue the driver from a certain, fiery death while other observers on the scene made no attempt to assist. Sergeant *Atchley* emptied fire extinguishers, which he had obtained from the onlookers, over the drivers' body and on the cab of the vehicle in order to quell the flames. The fuel continued to burn, presenting an ever-present danger of explosion. When the flames had receded sufficiently, he removed the driver through the window. This was a precarious maneuver since the fire could not be completely extinguished in the cab. By his courageous action, humanitarian regard for his fellow man, and dedication of service to his country, Sergeant First Class *Atchley* has reflected great credit on himself and the United States Army.

2. By direction of the President, under the provisions of the Act of Congress approved 2 July 1926, a Soldier's Medal for heroism not involving actual conflict with an enemy is awarded to:

Specialist Four *Salvatore J. Barbera*, , United States Army, who distinguished himself by heroism involving voluntary risk of life at Teuchit, Germany on 29 March 1971. Specialist *Barbera* observed two 16,000-gallon fuel-transporting railcars loaded with diesel fuel crash through a metal chain link gate at the entrance to the Petroleum Supply Point. The railcars continued to roll at approximately 10 miles per hour out of the Supply Point and down the tracks. At great personal risk, Specialist *Barbera* jumped aboard the second car and stopped the railcars by manually operating the braking device. Specialist *Barbera's* courageous actions prevented the loss of United States Government property and averted a possible disaster. By his courageous action, humanitarian regard for his fellow man, and dedication of service to his country, Specialist *Barbera* has reflected great credit on himself and the United States Army.

3. By direction of the President, under the provisions of the Act of Congress approved 2 July 1926, a Soldier's Medal for heroism not involving actual conflict with an enemy is awarded to:

Sergeant First Class *Samuel L. Baucom*, , United States Army, who distinguished himself by heroism involving voluntary risk of life at Remagen Hand Grenade Range, Fort Jackson, South Carolina. On that date Sergeant *Baucom* risked his life to save a trainee. The trainee had pulled the safety pin on a live hand grenade, and, when he attempted to throw the grenade, it rolled off his finger tips and fell behind him. Seeing the grenade drop, Sergeant *Baucom* immediately grabbed the trainee, pushed him down, and covered him with his own body. The grenade exploded without loss of life or injury. By this courageous action, humanitarian regard for his fellow man, and dedication of service to his country, Sergeant First Class *Baucom* has reflected great credit on himself and the United States Army. (This award supersedes the Army Commendation Medal awarded to Sergeant First Class *Baucom*, United States Army, as announced in General Orders Number 101, Headquarters, United States Army Training Center, Infantry and Fort Jackson, South Carolina, 1971.)

4. By direction of the President, under the provisions of the Act of Congress approved 2 July 1926, a Soldier's Medal for heroism not involving actual conflict with an enemy is awarded to:

Second Lieutenant *Glen A. Birdsall*, , United States Army, who distinguished himself by heroism involving voluntary risk of life at Fort Benning, Georgia, on 12 April 1971. On that date an M132-A1 flame track malfunctioned and burst into flames, trapping two men inside the vehicle. Lieutenant *Birdsall*, with total disregard for his personal safety, sprinted 200 meters to the track carrying a fire extinguisher. With three other soldiers, he managed to bring the flames under control. He then mounted the track and, with the help of two soldiers, rescued the two men from the still-smoking vehicle. By his courageous action, humanitarian regard for his fellow man, and dedication of service to his country, Second Lieutenant *Birdsall* has reflected great credit on himself and the United States Army.

5. By direction of the President, under the provisions of the Act of Congress approved 2 July 1926, a Soldier's Medal for heroism not involving actual conflict with an enemy is awarded to:

Second Lieutenant *Dan C. Branscum*, , United States Army, who distinguished himself by heroism involving voluntary risk of life at Fort Ord, California on 8 June 1971. On that date a soldier dropped a grenade while attempting to pull the safety pin. Lieutenant *Branscum* and the young soldier both dove to retrieve the activated grenade in an attempt to get it out of the pit before it could explode. In the scramble, the grenade was flipped into the air above the throwing bay. Leaping up, Lieutenant *Branscum* batted the grenade over the safety wall and then pushed the soldier to safety on the bay floor. The grenade barely cleared the safety wall when it exploded. Lieutenant *Branscum's* quick thinking, decisive actions, and complete disregard for his personal safety saved the soldier's life. By his courageous action, humanitarian regard for his fellow man, and dedication of service to his country, Second Lieutenant *Branscum* has reflected great credit on himself and the United States Army.

6. By direction of the President, under the provisions of the act of Congress approved 2 July 1926, a Soldier's Medal for heroism not involving actual conflict with an enemy is awarded to:

Specialist Four *Alberto Garcia*, \_\_\_\_\_, United States Army, who distinguished himself by heroism involving voluntary risk of life at Hohenfels, Germany on 9 April 1970. On that date Specialist *Garcia* witnessed the crash and explosion of a reconnaissance helicopter. Disregarding his personal safety, he attempted to rescue the crewmembers of the burning helicopter. Suffering severe burns to his hands and face, Specialist *Garcia* was successful in assisting in the rescue of the pilot. Returning to the flaming helicopter, he attempted to rescue the remaining crewmember. Displaying extreme courage and extraordinary heroism, he entered the helicopter despite the intense heat and flames and remained in the burning wreckage until all attempts to rescue the remaining crewmember proved futile. By his courageous action, humanitarian regard for his fellow man, and dedication of service to his country, Specialist Four *Garcia* has reflected great credit on himself and the United States Army. (This award supersedes the Army Commendation Medal, awarded to Specialist *Garcia* for heroism on 8 July 1970, as announced in 4th Armored Division General Orders Number 273, 1970.)

7. By direction of the President, under the provisions of the Act of Congress approved 2 July 1926, a Soldier's Medal for heroism not involving actual conflict with an enemy is awarded to:

Sergeant First Class *Douglas E. Gibbs*, \_\_\_\_\_, United States Army, who distinguished himself by heroism involving voluntary risk of life at Hohenfels, Germany on 8 July 1971. On that date Sergeant *Gibbs* rescued a fellow soldier from a burning M60 tank. The soldier was performing maintenance in the tank when three rounds of 105-mm ammunition exploded, injuring him seriously and preventing him from leaving the burning tank unassisted. Sergeant *Gibbs* climbed aboard the burning tank, disregarding the danger of a possible explosion, and assisted in removing the injured soldier from the tank. When the soldier was removed to safety, Sergeant *Gibbs* immediately took action to keep the injured man alive. He began mouth-to-mouth resuscitation, which he continued until they both arrived at the dispensary. By his courageous action, humanitarian regard for his fellow man, and dedication of service to his country, Sergeant First Class *Gibbs* has reflected great credit on himself and the United States Army.

8. By direction of the President, under the provisions of the Act of Congress approved 2 July 1926, a Soldier's Medal for heroism not involving actual conflict with an enemy is awarded to:

Captain *Phillip W. Gray*, \_\_\_\_\_, Armor, United States Army, who distinguished himself by heroism involving voluntary risk of life at Grafenwohr, West Germany on 21 March 1971. On that date Captain *Gray* positioned his tank near the ammunition point in preparation for firing on the range when the tank suddenly burst into flames. Captain *Gray* quickly analyzed the situation and organized a fire-fighting team. Realizing that the available facilities were inadequate to control the fire, he ordered the blazing vehicle towed away from the ammunition and surrounding vehicles. Completely disregarding his personal safety, Captain *Gray* climbed into the smoke-filled turret of the tank



and removed approximately 10 rounds of ammunition before he was forced to withdraw by the smoke and intense heat. Refusing to abandon the burning vehicle, Captain *Gray* remained on the tank and supervised the emergency unloading of the equipment. When all items had been removed, he ordered the vehicle towed to an open field, eliminating danger to personnel and material. Captain *Gray's* courage and leadership prevented loss of human lives and the destruction of Government property. By his courageous action, humanitarian regard for his fellow man, and dedication of service to his country, Captain *Gray* has reflected great credit on himself and the United States Army.

9. By direction of the President, under the provisions of the Act of Congress approved 2 July 1926, a Soldier's Medal for heroism not involving actual conflict with an enemy is awarded to:

First Lieutenant *Elliott R. Guttman*, , United States Army, who distinguished himself by heroism when he risked his life to save two young companions on 19 June 1971. While swimming in the Gulf of Mexico waters off the coast of Galveston, Texas, Lieutenant *Guttman* and the two boys 12 and 11 years of age, were swept by strong currents and high waves toward a stone fishing pier extending out from the shore. At great personal peril, without hesitation he swam to a position between the jagged rocks and the two boys using his body to protect the two boys from harm. His neck, back, and arms were severely cut and bruised when he was crashed against the rocks, but, ignoring painful injuries, he continued to use his body to shield the boys from danger until he could aid them onto the pier and safety. By his courageous action, humanitarian regard for his fellow man, and dedication of service to his country, Lieutenant *Guttman* has reflected great credit on himself and the United States Army.

10. By direction of the President, under the provisions of Act of Congress approved 2 July 1926, a Soldier's Medal for heroism not involving actual conflict with an enemy is awarded to:

Second Lieutenant *Christian R. Holmes, IV*, , United States Army, who distinguished himself by heroism involving voluntary risk of life at San Francisco Bay, in the vicinity of Fort Point on 18 July 1971. On that date Lieutenant *Holmes*, without hesitation and with complete disregard for his safety, plunged into the cold and treacherous waters of San Francisco Bay in an heroic attempt to save the life of a woman who had jumped from the Golden Gate Bridge. By his courageous action, humanitarian regard for his fellow man, and dedication of service to his country, Second Lieutenant *Holmes* has reflected great credit on himself and the United States Army.

11. By direction of the President, under the provisions of the Act of Congress approved 2 July 1926, a Soldier's Medal for heroism not involving actual conflict with an enemy is awarded to:

Specialist Four *Richard C. Houser*, , United States Army, who distinguished himself by heroism involving voluntary risk of life in Chicago, Illinois, on 8 July 1971. At approximately 1550 hours on that date, Specialist *Houser* was on leave in Chicago from his organization. While walking on North Clark Street he heard a gunshot and observed the victim who fell to the pavement across the street from him. After looking around for a moment, the

assailant then fired two more shots into the victim and fled. Specialist *Houser* immediately pursued the armed offender with complete disregard for his personal safety, and, after a hand-to-hand struggle, disarmed and captured him singlehandedly. After turning the offender over to an armed security guard, he rapidly returned to the site of the incident and attempted to revive the victim by administering mouth-to-mouth resuscitation. By his courageous action, humanitarian regard for his fellow man, and dedication of service to his country, Specialist *Houser* has reflected great credit on himself and the United States Army.

12. By direction of the President, under the provisions of the Act of Congress approved 2 July 1926, a Soldier's Medal for heroism not involving actual conflict with an enemy is awarded to:

Sergeant First Class *Walter B. Judd*, , United States Army, who distinguished himself by heroism involving voluntary risk of life at Wurzburg, Germany on 24 May 1971. On that date Sergeant *Judd* answered a call for aid from a drowning German woman. Acting without hesitation or regard for his personal safety, he ran across a heavily traveled four-lane highway and down to the Main River bank. Though already exhausted from the 180-yard run, he dove into the river and swam diagonally upstream, fighting the swift current and tremendous undertow. Reaching the almost lifeless woman, he called on his last resources of energy to keep the woman's head above water and fought his way back to the river bank. Only his intense will to survive and deep concern for another life enabled him to reach the shore, where observers pulled him and the woman from the river. By his courageous action, humanitarian regard for his fellow man, and dedication of service to his country, Sergeant *Judd* has reflected great credit on himself and the United States Army.

13. By direction of the President, under the provisions of the Act of Congress approved 2 July 1926, a Soldier's Medal for heroism not involving actual conflict with an enemy is awarded to

First Lieutenant *Howard J. Kahl*, Infantry, , United States Army, who distinguished himself by heroism involving voluntary risk of life at Fort Benning, Georgia on 12 April 1971. During a training exercise an M132-A1 flame track malfunctioned and burst into flames, trapping two crewmen inside. With total disregard for his personal safety, Lieutenant *Kahl* ran 200 meters with a fire extinguisher and managed to bring the flames under control with assistance from three other men. He then mounted the track and rescued the trapped crewmembers. By his courageous action, humanitarian regard for his fellow man, and dedication of service to his country, First Lieutenant *Kahl* has reflected great credit on himself and the United States Army.

14. By direction of the President, under the provisions of the Act of Congress approved 2 July 1926, a Soldier's Medal for heroism not involving actual conflict with an enemy is awarded to:

Private *David R. Kalina*, , United States Army, who distinguished himself by heroism involving voluntary risk of life at Fort Rucker, Alabama on 4 June 1971. On that date Private *Kalina's* immediate and appropriate action, following a fire in the company area, resulted in the administra-



tion of life-saving first aid and the successful medical evacuation of a critically injured soldier. Private *Kalina* distinguished himself by analyzing an emergency situation correctly and then taking immediate and necessary action without regard for his personal safety. By his courageous action, humanitarian regard for his fellow man, and dedication of service to his country, Private *Kalina* has reflected great credit on himself and the United States Army.

15. By direction of the President, under the provisions of the Act of Congress approved 2 July 1926, a Soldier's Medal for heroism not involving actual conflict with an enemy is awarded to:

Private First Class *Bruce A. Keaton*, \_\_\_\_\_, United States Army, who distinguished himself by heroism involving voluntary risk of life at Fort Bragg, North Carolina on 24 April 1971. On that date Private *Keaton* distinguished himself by exceptionally heroic conduct in connection with an accidental explosion at the Coleman Danger Area at Fort Bragg, North Carolina. Private *Keaton* found two seriously wounded men on Preachers Road and learned from them that two other wounded men were still at the site of the explosion in the impact area of observation Post Number 5. Private *Keaton* gave first aid to the two men and immediately called for a medical evacuation helicopter. Without hesitation he then proceeded, at great personal risk, into the impact area. At the site of the explosion, Private *Keaton* found one man dead and a second man very near death from losing both legs and suffering from multiple shrapnel wounds. He applied tourniquets and moved the man in a truck to expedite the trip to the hospital. The man would have died at the site had it not been for the brave, decisive, and competent action of Private *Keaton*. By his courageous action, humanitarian regard for his fellow man, and dedication of service to his country, Private *Keaton* has reflected great credit on himself and the United States Army.

16. By direction of the President, under the provisions of the Act of Congress approved 2 July 1926, a Soldier's Medal for heroism not involving actual conflict with an enemy is awarded to:

Sergeant First Class *Joe Lopez*, \_\_\_\_\_, United States Army, Company B, 7th Special Forces, Fort Bragg, North Carolina, who distinguished himself by heroism on 13 August 1971. On that date at approximately 0915 hours on St Mere Eglise Drop Zone, Fort Bragg, the 7th Special Forces Group was conducting monthly command and staff parachute jumps from helicopters. During the third sortie a jumper made a poor exit from the lead helicopter and was hanging from the right skid. Disregarding the risk of his personal safety, Sergeant *Lopez* climbed out of the aircraft onto the skid in order to reach the jumper. With one hand holding the jumper by the back pack he retrieved the deployment bag of the dangling parachute which prevented it from possibly becoming entangled in the aircraft rotors. Such an entanglement could possibly have resulted in the loss of the jumper's life and the lives of the helicopter's crewmembers. Sergeant *Lopez* continued the support of the jumper, at the risk of his own safety, until the safe removal of the parachutist after the aircraft made a safe descent to the ground. By his courageous action, humanitarian regard for his fellow man, and dedication of service to his country, Sergeant *Lopez* has reflected great credit on himself and the United States Army.

17. By direction of the President, under the provision of the Act of Congress approved 2 July 1926, a Soldier's Medal for heroism not involving actual conflict with an enemy is awarded to:

Cadet *Robert G. Losey*, , United States Military Academy, who distinguished himself by heroism involving voluntary risk of life at Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, on 28 July 1971. On that date John A. King, the driver of a car containing his wife, mistakenly put his car into gear instead of reverse, causing the vehicle to shoot forward and plunge off a dock and into the lake. Disregarding his personal safety, Cadet *Losey*, with his split second response, was the first to respond to the emergency. He dove into the lake and removed the two people from the car while other swimmers assisted by opening the car doors. Cadet *Losey's* quick and decisive action saved the elderly couple from drowning. Upon the couple's release, the car settled to the bottom of the lake in approximately 8 feet of water. By his courageous action, humanitarian regard for his fellow man, and dedication of service to his country, Cadet *Losey* has reflected great credit on himself and the United States Military Academy.

18. By direction of the President, under the provisions of the Act of Congress approved 2 July 1926, a Soldier's Medal for heroism not involving actual conflict with an enemy is awarded to:

Specialist Four *Dennis F. McCarthy*, , United States Army, who distinguished himself by heroism involving voluntary risk of life at Fort Polk, Louisiana on 17 May 1971. On that date Specialist *McCarthy's* quick thinking and swift and courageous action prevented severe injury to two trainees. One of the trainees accidentally activated a delay mechanism on a grenade simulator. Specialist *McCarthy*, not knowing whether the device was active or not, grabbed it from the trainee's hand and attempted to throw it clear of the group. The device detonated shortly after it left Specialist *McCarthy's* hand, knocking the three men to the ground, but causing only minor injuries. By his courageous action, humanitarian regard for his fellow man, and dedication of service to his country, Specialist Four *McCarthy* has reflected great credit on himself and the United States Army.

19. By direction of the President, under the provisions of the Act of Congress approved 2 July 1926, a Soldier's Medal for heroism not involving actual conflict with an enemy is awarded to:

Sergeant First Class *James E. Teachy*, , United States Army, who distinguished himself by heroism involving voluntary risk of life at Landstuhl, Germany on 12 August 1970. On that date Sergeant *Teachy*, responded to a call for help in a dependent housing area where a 12-year-old boy had climbed a tower and came in contact with high voltage electric wires. Sergeant *Teachy*, along with a military policeman, climbed the tower to reach the boy. The two men reached through a wire guard and lifted the boy from the wire. They held the boy off the electric wire for 25 minutes until the electricity was turned off. They then brought him down from the tower to a waiting ambulance. The boy's life was saved. By his courageous action, humanitarian regard for his fellow man, and dedication of service to his country, Sergeant First Class *Teachy* has reflected great credit on himself and the United States Army.

**VII. AIR MEDAL.** By direction of the President, under the provisions of Executive Order 9158, 11 May 1942, as amended by Executive Order 9242-A, 11 September 1942, an Air Medal with "V" Device (Numeral Device 35) for heroism while participating in aerial flight is awarded by the Department of the Army to:

Captain *Edward J. Preston*, , United States Army, who distinguished himself by heroism while participating in aerial flight in the Republic of Vietnam. At approximately 2100 hours on 30 September 1966, during Operation ATTLEBORO I, in Tay Ninh Province; Company C, 2d Battalion, 1st Infantry, 196th Light Infantry Brigade, suffered three casualties from enemy rifle grenades. Medical evacuation for the seriously wounded was urgently needed, and Captain *Preston* and his crew were airborne shortly after the request was received. En route to the rescue, Captain *Preston* was confronted with extremely adverse flying conditions. Heavy torrential rains and lightning forced him to fly at and below tree-top level in order that the evacuation area could be observed. The fury of the tropical storm prevented immediate visual contact with the evacuation area below, forcing Captain *Preston* to make several attempts before he was able to locate the evacuation area. Flying almost blindly at tree-top level and negotiating the high trees along the small landing zone, his relentless courage in braving the fury of the tropical storm was responsible for saving the lives of the seriously wounded personnel. Captain *Preston's* personal courage reflected great credit on him, his unit, and the United States Army.

By Order of the Secretary of the Army:

Official:

**VERNE L. BOWERS,**  
*Major General, United States Army,*  
*The Adjutant General.*

**W. C. WESTMORELAND,**  
*General, United States Army,*  
*Chief of Staff.*

Distribution:

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